

Application No. 10/522,054  
Amendment Dated November 1, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of October 1, 2007

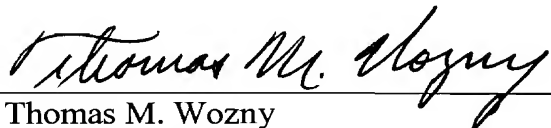
**REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated October 1, 2007, claims 26-46 were subjected to a restriction requirement by the Examiner. In response, applicant has elected to prosecute the invention of Group I, namely, claims 26-44 drawn to a method of separating a component from a metal-based composite. Claims 45 and 46 drawn to a titanium rich powder is herein withdrawn from further consideration as being directed toward a non-elected invention. Applicant reserves its right to file a divisional application on these claims in the future.

Examination on the merits of claims 26-44 is herein requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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